

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
April 18, 2002
2:00PM
Room 433, Blatt Building

Members Present: Mr. Staton, Mr. Daniel, Senator Giese, Dr. Gummerson, Mrs. Hoag, Mrs. Marlowe, Mr. Martin, Mr. Stowe, Superintendent Tenenbaum, Mrs. Thompson, Representative Townsend, Mr. Wilson.

I. **Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Staton welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He introduced a new member, Harold Stowe, to those present. The Speaker of the House of Representatives has appointed Mr. Stowe. Mr. Staton announced that Harry Lightsey had been appointed by the President Pro Tempore to serve a term beginning July 1, 2002.

II. **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the March 21 meeting were approved as distributed.

III. **Subcommittee Reports**

A. **Academic Standards and Assessments:** Mr. Wilson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee recommended approval of the English Language Arts Standards, as revised and the High School Science Course Standards for Biology and Physical Science, as revised. The EOC voted approval.

Mr. Wilson did ask that the State Department of Education consider a common format for course standards, when appropriate to the grade level and content area. He also asked that educators examine ways to ensure consistent implementation across the districts.

B. **EIA and Improvement Mechanisms:** Mr. Staton indicated that the Subcommittee had not met. He told the members that he had addressed the K-12 Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee and that staff are monitoring the budget as it moves through the Senate.

C. **Parental Involvement:** Mrs. Thompson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. She indicated that the survey development had been concluded. A full report is to be presented at the May EOC meeting.

D. **Public Awareness:** Mr. Martin reported that the Subcommittee had not met. He reminded members that the composite photograph is under development and if they are submitting photos to do so as soon as possible. He also reminded members of the training for the chamber and civic club presentations.

E. **Staff and Administration:** Mr. Staton reported on behalf other Subcommittee. He drew members' attention to the legislative strategy placed at their desks. He recommended approval. The EOC approved the strategy. He reported on the status of the governance legislation.

Dr. Anderson reviewed the document (in member packets) discussing the increasing numbers of Hispanic students in SC schools.

IV. **Report from a Key Constituency - "Miles to Go"**

Dr. Anderson introduced Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Associate Director of the Commission on Higher Education. Dr. Woodfaulk thanked members for the opportunity to present the "Miles To Go" report. She introduced Mr. Steve Suits, Program Director, Southern Education Foundation.

Mr. Suits presented the findings from the Miles To Go study conducted in South Carolina which emphasize both the disparate opportunity and results achieved by minority and/or economically disadvantaged students. Members asked Mr. Suits a number of questions.

V. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.